



National Milk Producers Federation

2107 Wilson Blvd., Suite 600, Arlington, VA 22201 | (703) 243-6111 | www.nmpf.org

July 26, 2021

Agri-Mark, Inc.
Associated Milk
Producers Inc.
Bongards' Creameries
California Dairies, Inc.
Cayuga Marketing
Cooperative Milk
Producers Association
Dairy Farmers of
America, Inc.
Ellsworth
Cooperative Creamery
FarmFirst Dairy
Cooperative
First District
Association
Foremost Farms USA
Land O'Lakes, Inc.
Lone Star Milk
Producers
Maryland & Virginia
Milk Producers
Cooperative
Association
Michigan Milk
Producers Association
Mount Joy Farmers
Cooperative
Association
Northwest Dairy
Association
Oneida-Madison Milk
Producers Cooperative
Association
Prairie Farms Dairy,
Inc.
Scioto Cooperative
Milk Producers'
Association
Select Milk
Producers, Inc.
Southeast Milk, Inc.
Tillamook County
Creamery Association
United Dairymen
of Arizona
Upstate Niagara
Cooperative, Inc.

The Honorable David Scott
Chairman
House Agriculture Committee
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Glenn 'GT' Thompson
Ranking Member
House Agriculture Committee
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Scott and Ranking Member Thompson:

The National Milk Producers Federation writes to offer support for your bipartisan Amendment in the Nature of a Substitute (ANS) to the 2020 WHIP+ Reauthorization Act (H.R. 267). We look forward to working with you to advance this bipartisan measure through Congress.

Existing safety net and insurance programs provide important options for dairy farmers to manage risk on an ongoing basis, but they do not account for the unique circumstances that confront farmers when natural disasters arise unexpectedly. The obstacles dairy farmers have endured in recent years have only been compounded due to numerous natural disasters, including Hurricane Irma which imposed significant difficulties for Florida dairy producers in 2017 and the extreme cold which wrought major damages upon Texas farmers this year. Weather-related disasters of this nature will saddle producers with many challenges on a moment's notice, so it is essential that disaster assistance be provided to help farmers recover from these incidents.

To that end, NMPF is grateful that the ANS being considered by the House Agriculture Committee reauthorizes for calendar years 2020 and 2021 the Wildfires and Hurricanes Indemnity and Milk Loss (WHIP-ML) Program which provides indemnity support to dairy producers for milk that was dumped or otherwise removed from commercial channels due to weather-related natural disasters including hurricanes, floods, and snowstorms. We commend the inclusion of provisions to offer coverage options beyond the scope of the original program, such as derecho storms, deep freezes, power outages, and excessive heat. Finally, we are pleased that the ANS allows dairy cooperatives to receive and then distribute payments to their producer-owners if so desired.

NMPF urges all members of the House Agriculture Committee to vote in favor of H.R. 267 as modified by the ANS. Thank you for your ongoing efforts on behalf of U.S. dairy farmers.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Jim Mulhern", with a stylized, cursive script.

Jim Mulhern
President & CEO

